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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/044,565	01/11/2002	Sachin Kukreja	MS#158496.1 (4964)	9442
321	7590	07/13/2006	EXAMINER	
SENNIGER POWERS ONE METROPOLITAN SQUARE 16TH FLOOR ST LOUIS, MO 63102				BENGZON, GREG C
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2144		

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/044,565	KUKREJA ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Greg Bengzon	2144	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 May 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-45 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-45 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

This application has been examined. Claims 1-3,5-45 are pending. Claim 4 has been cancelled.

Priority

The effective date of the claims described in this application is January 11, 2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-3,5-23 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 1 recite limitations citing ' computer readable media' which the Applicant Specifications (page 14) define as a carrier wave or modulate data signals embodied in a carrier wave. The Examiner notes that said carrier wave or data signals embodied in a carrier wave are non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner notes that absent some physical context, a signal per se is an abstract idea in much the same way that a mathematical algorithm without context is an abstract idea.

Claims 2-3,5-23 are rejected based on dependency on Claim 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 5-21, 23-25, 27-41, and 43-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan (US Publication 2002/0165960) in view of by Hurvig et al. (US Publication 2004/0205243), hereinafter referred to as Hurvig.

With respect to Claim 1 Chan disclosed an application programming interface (API) (Chan-Paragraph 97) for communication between an administration server and an authentication server connected via a data communication network, said API comprising instructions for:

receiving, by the authentication server (Chan-Paragraph 259 –‘identity server’), the request from the administration server; (Chan - Figure 38, Paragraph 223,‘web gate’),

 said authentication server having a database for storing authentication information (Paragraph 219, Paragraph 255)

 verifying, by the authentication server, (Paragraph 255) authority of the administration server to issue the request received by the authentication server; (Chan-Paragraph 223) and performing, by the authentication server,(Paragraph 259) the action specified by the received request. (Chan-Paragraph 224)

 The Examiner notes that the access server and the identity server work together for managing access control.

 However Chan did not disclose associating a namespace with a plurality of administration servers, said administration servers providing a service associated with a namespace, such that the request received by the authentication server relates to the namespace associated with the administration server.

 Hurvig disclosed (re. Claim 1) associating a namespace (Hurvig-Paragraph 164) with a plurality of administration servers (Hurvig- Paragraph 29) such that the request received by the authentication server relates to the namespace associated with the administration server (Hurvig-Paragraph 40).

Hurvig also presented disclosures regarding the authentication process between administration servers and authentication servers that are similar to Chan. Hurvig and Chan both disclosed identity servers and delegated management (Chan-Paragraph 262-263, Paragraph 265, Paragraph 271-'affiliated Web gate', Hurvig-Paragraph 30, Paragraph 40,). Furthermore, Hurvig disclosed (re. Claim 1) verifying, by the authentication server, authority of the administration server (Hurvig-Paragraph 40, Paragraph 90, Paragraph 225) to issue the request received by the authentication server; and performing, by the authentication server, the action specified by the received, verified request. (Paragraph 202)

Chan and Hurvig are analogous art because they present concepts and practices regarding managing access to a related group of resources, such as resources in a domain or namespace. (Chan - Paragraph 23, Hurvig-Paragraph 164) At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Hurvig regarding associating namespaces with host providers operating a plurality of administration servers, into of Chan. The motivation for said combination would have been, as Hurvig suggests (Hurvig-Paragraph 24, Paragraph 25) , so that entities responsible for particular actions can be more readily identified.

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed (re. Claim 2) wherein the database associated with the authentication server stores authorization information (Hurvиг-Paragraph 190) relating to the administration server (Chan-Paragraph 261) and wherein verifying the authority of the administration server to issue the request comprises identifying the administration server (Hurvиг-Paragraph 40, Paragraph 226) and locating corresponding authorization information for the administration server in the database (Chan-Paragraph 219, Hurvig-Paragraph 30) associated with the authentication server.

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed (re. Claim 3) wherein identifying the administration server comprises examining an encrypted ticket accompanying the request, said ticket identifying the administrator. (Hurvиг-Paragraph 201, Chan-Paragraph 129)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed (re. Claim 4) wherein identifying the administration server comprises examining an encrypted ticket accompanying the request, said ticket identifying the administrator. (Hurvиг-Paragraph 201, Chan-Paragraph 129)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed (re. Claim 5) wherein performing the specified action comprises reserving the namespace with the authentication server (Hurvиг-Paragraph 47, Paragraph 163), to prevent an unauthorized user from obtaining

an account in the namespace, (Hurvig-Paragraph 167) said request including a domain name associated with the namespace, further comprising:

requesting, by the authentication server, domain information for the domain name included in the verified request from the domain name service;(Hurvig-Paragraph 40)

determining, by the authentication server, authority of the administration server to reserve the namespace by comparing the received domain information with the verified request and (Hurvig-Paragraph 51)

reserving the namespace only if the administration server is authorized to make the request and reserve the namespace.(Hurvig-Paragraph 163,Paragraph 167)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 6 - The API of claim 5, wherein reserving the namespace comprises creating an administrator account (Chan-Paragraph 104 – ‘Delegated Identity Administrator’) associated with the administration server to manage the namespace. (Hurvig-Paragraph 163,Paragraph 167)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 7 - The API of claim 1, wherein performing the specified action comprises releasing the namespace to allow any user to obtain an account in the namespace. (Chan – Paragraph 129)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 8 - The API of claim 1, wherein performing the specified action comprises maintaining and editing a namespace administrator list. (Chan – Paragraph 103-104)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 9 - The API of claim 8, wherein editing a namespace administrator list comprises adding at least one administrator to the namespace administrator list. (Chan – Paragraph 103-104)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 10 - The API of claim 8, wherein editing a namespace administrator list comprises deleting at least one administrator from the namespace administrator list. (Chan – Paragraph 103-104)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 11 - The API of claim 1, wherein performing the specified action comprises editing one or more user accounts in the namespace. (Chan – Paragraph 129)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 12 - The API of claim 11, wherein editing one or more user accounts in the namespace comprises creating at least one user account in the namespace. (Chan – Paragraph 260-261)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 13 - The API of claim 11, wherein editing one or more user accounts in the namespace comprises resetting a namespace password associated with at least one of the user accounts. (Chan – Paragraph 260-261)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 14 - The API of claim 11, wherein editing one or more user accounts in the namespace comprises removing at least one of the user accounts from the namespace. (Chan – Paragraph 260-261)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 15 - The API of claim 11, wherein editing one or more user accounts in the namespace comprises editing a profile associated with at least one of the user accounts. (Chan – Paragraph 260-261)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 16 - The API of claim 11, wherein editing one or more user accounts in the namespace comprises changing a sign-in name associated with at least one of the user accounts. (Chan – Paragraph 260-261)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 17 - The API of claim 1, wherein performing the specified action comprises: listing user accounts associated with the namespace; (Chan – Paragraph 134) and evicting one or more of the user accounts from the namespace. (Chan – Paragraph 260-261)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 18 - The API of claim 17, wherein performing the specified action further comprises permitting the respective user to contest an evicted account. (Chan – Paragraph 256)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 19 - The API of claim 1, wherein performing the specified action comprises auditing actions within user accounts associated with the namespace. (Chan – Paragraph 134)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 20 - The API of claim 1, further comprising returning a success response from the authentication server to the administration server if the request was received, the administration server was verified, and the specified action was performed successfully.(Chan – Paragraph 142)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 21 - The API of claim 1, wherein performing the specified action comprises returning an error response from the authentication server to the administration server if the request was received, the administration server was not verified, or the specified action was performed unsuccessfully. (Chan – Paragraph 142)

The combination of Chan and Hurvig disclosed Claim 23 - The API of claim 1, wherein the instructions are computer-executable instructions stored on one or more computer readable media. (Chan – Paragraph 101)

Claim 24,25, 27-41, and 43-45 are rejected on the same basis as Claims 1-3,5-23 as disclosed by the combination of Chan and Hurvig.

Claims 22,26, and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan (US Publication 2002/0165960) in view of Hurvig et al. (US

Publication 2004/0205243), hereinafter referred to as Hurvig, further in view of Convent et al. (US Publication 2002/0016814) hereinafter referred to as Convent.

While the combination of Chan and Hurvig substantially disclosed the invention, the said combination did not disclose using an API based on a simple object access protocol (SOAP).

Convent disclosed a method and system for providing an API using the Simple Object Access Protocol. (Paragraph 25)

Chan, Hurvig and Convent are analogous art because they teach exchanging messages between elements in a distributed computing environment. At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Convent into the combined systems of Chan and Hurvig, in order to allow the API of Chan and Hurvig to communicate using SOAP. The combination of Chan, Hurvig and Convent would have disclosed Claim 22, 26, 42 wherein the API is based on a simple object access protocol (SOAP). The motivation for the said combination would have been, as Convent suggests (Convent – Paragraph 8), to enable the API to invoke legacy database stored procedures.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed invention.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

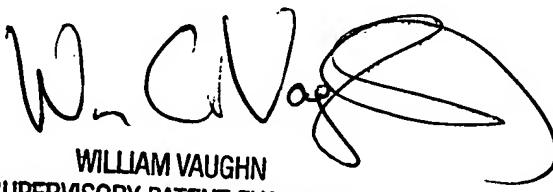
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Greg Bengzon whose telephone number is (571) 272-3944. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Fri. 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Vaughn can be reached on (571)272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


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